INSIDE THIS WEEK:

WILL YOU MARRY ME?
Brian Griffin pops the question in an ad on page 2 in this week's Echo

JAPANESE CHRISTMAS
Exchange students are amazed by the decorations and gift giving

SILVERSTICK CHAMPS
Highland Storm Atoms will be taking to the ice in big Pelham tournament

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THE ECHO
HALIBURTON COUNTY

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2003 OCNA AWARDS

Tuesday, December 30, 2003
Vol. 121 No. 2
$1 including GST

The Cat in the Hat came back

Mike Myers has breakfast at the Kozy – twice!

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

The sun did not shine,
It was too wet to play,
So we sat in the Kozy
All that cold, cold wet day...

He may have been The Cat in the Hat across the street at the Molou, but at the Kozy Korner Mike Myers was starring as a jolly little elf in the days before Christmas.

On December 23 one of the waitresses at the Kozy Korner, Pat Schwab, ran back to the kitchen hardly able to contain her news: "Oh my God, I think it's Mike Myers."

Sure enough, there was Austin Powers and the Cat in the Hat himself enjoying breakfast at one of the tables with a childhood friend (who apparently has a cottage up here).

Encouraged by the other staff at the restaurant, Schwab got up enough nerve to ask him if he was indeed the famous actor. When he said yes, owner Janet Tice then summoned up enough courage to ask if he'd be willing to have his picture taken with the staff.

He said yes with enthusiasm and with his friend doing the honours behind the camera, posed with the group of beam-

See **Actor** *page 6*

MIKE MYERS' FRIEND/Special to The Echo

"We couldn't believe how nice he is," says Janet Tice who poses with Mike Myers in an elf hat at her Haliburton restaurant. The star of The Cat in the Hat and the Austin Powers series had breakfast at the Kozy Korner last Tuesday and then returned the next day to sign the photos his friend had taken of him with the staff of the restaurant. there have been many Mike Myers sightings throughout the Highlands over the past few years.

Chamber makes pitch for increased marketing money

JERRY GROZELLE
Staff Reporter

Bob Hall, Heather Deveaux and Eric Christenson, representing the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, attended the Haliburton County council meeting to outline the Chamber's marketing plan for 2004 and ask council to consider increasing funding.

"We're not here for a donation or a handout," said Hall, the Chamber president. He noted that the county's funding is a tourism-marketing contract. He said the funding of the past has shown "tangible results."

"There has been an increase [of visitors to the Highlands] across the board," Hall said.

To support that claim, the Chamber representatives presented a report with figures from the past five years.

Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey expressed some concern about the figures, wondering where they came from and who was counted as a visitor to Haliburton County. "I'm hearing that the number of people staying overnight is down," he said.

The figure in the "number of visitors" column for the year 2002 was 829,000, up from 741,000 the previous year. Fearrey was skeptical, saying that there aren't enough rooms available in Haliburton County to accommodate that many visitors over the course of a year.

See **County** *page 7*

FEATURE

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An early gift

Four paramedics at the Haliburton County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) celebrated their new promotions over the holiday. From right, Bob English is the new director of EMS, also responsible for emergency management and planning; Larry Hartin takes over as manager of operations, responsible for day-to-day operations; Dwight Thomas is the new duty officer in Minden; and Ian Douglas is the new duty officer for Haliburton.

MARTHA PERKINS/Echo

Corrections

The election results in the December 23 *Haliburton County Echo* were incorrect. The results prior to Dysart et al's recount were 365 votes for Bob Nichol, 350 votes for Henwood, 297 votes for Howse. After the Ward 1 recount the tally was 371 votes for Nichol, 346 votes for Henwood, and 295 votes for Howse.

Information regarding the Ontario Early Years Centre's annual Christmas lunch was incomplete as it appeared in *The Echo* on Dec. 23 on page 26. The Haliburton IGA donated the turkey for the event.

The Echo apologizes for the errors.

Cambridge man dies after striking tree

OPP urge all trail users to ride with caution, especially near bodies of water

MARTHA PERKINS
Editor

A 31-year-old man who drove up to Haliburton Forest with friends for a day on their snowmobiles died after he failed to negotiate a curve in the trail.

Jody O'Keefe of Cambridge, Ont. was killed on Sunday afternoon after he failed to negotiate his 1998 Ski Doo Mach Z 800 around a corner and lost control. He was ejected from his machine and struck a tree.

He was snowmobiling with three friends.

Emergency services personnel attended the accident and transported O'Keefe to the Haliburton Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Three ATV drivers who took a swim in the icy waters of Wren Lake were much luckier. The three drivers, all of who went through the ice on Saturday night in unrelated incidents, were in shallow water when the accidents occurred.

The Haliburton Highlands OPP "strongly urges" all operators of recreational vehicles to use extreme caution. There is very limited snow for the snowmobiles and the large bodies of water have not yet frozen over, especially near running water.

"There is not a worst detail for an officer to do than attend a family to advise them that a loved one has been killed, especially during the holiday season," says Sgt. H. Baranik of the local detachment.

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JANUARY 3 ... 10-4

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My dearest friend.
Love, Brian Griffin (R.S.V.P.)

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THE ECHO

Tuesday, December 30, 2003 news Page 3

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Insurers put the squeeze on municipalities

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Of the four municipalities in Haliburton County, Dysart et al has been hit hardest with an insurance premium increase with a 40 per cent rate hike.

The news was grim the past two weeks as insurance company representatives made their way around municipalities to deliver the less than cheerful message that not just car owners are going to feel the pinch this year.

Paul Dorman of Jardine, Lloyd, Thompson Canada Ltd. explained a couple of things are happening which negatively affect rates. One is that many companies took a hard hit from the 9/11 terrorist attacks so are not taking on new municipal contracts. That means there is less competition. The other factor is the number of claims and an increase in the value of awards. Dorman's message was to expect about a 30 per cent increase if the municipality has not had an increase in claims but 50 per cent or more if it has.

Last year one snow storm caused each municipality to lose a snow plow on the same day creating a large claim for each. But other than that, municipalities differ in the number and seriousness of claims. The insurance rate hikes also vary based on what kind of equipment or buildings are being insured. All four municipalities use Jardine.

Algonquin Highlands, with the least number of vehicles and buildings, got off the lightest with a 23.6 per cent increase bringing the total premium to $67,478.

Dysart in comparison experienced a 42 per cent increase or a $51,742 hike bringing the total bill to $124,261.

Highlands East , which has the same number of assets if not more in the fire department, experienced a 30 per cent increase of approximately $28,000 bringing the total premium there to $100,000. They also carry a lower deductible of $5,000 in the various liability areas whereas Dysart has a deductible of $10,000.

Minden Hills CAO Jerry Morrison did not confirm a number but did say the municipality was warned to expect a 30 per cent increase as well.

Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey says "it just blows my mind" when he reviews the claims and insurance report. Fearrey says municipalities are being hurt by insurance companies who prefer to settle out of court and pay the claim but then try to recoup their losses through premiums.

The only bit of good insurance news that Dysart's CAO Tammy McKelvey delivered is that the new Municipal Act will protect municipalities from being sued over sidewalk maintenance.

Top: Cec Andrus' team of horses pulled people around the Delta Pinestone property.
Above: Smiling people sit on bales of hay.
Left: Andrus, a neighbor and a friend.
Photos by Steve Galea.

Horse sleigh rides for good cause

STEVE GALEA

Special to the Echo

Jack and Freddie look like unlikely heroes, but I guess if you're in time of need, you could do worse than have a pair of 2000 pound animals on your side.

And that's just what the Henwood family has.

The two draft horses and owner Cec Andrus are firmly behind the Haliburton family who lost their home and more in a tragic fire on November 5.

That's why Andrus and his team, who took people for sleigh rides on December 21 at the Delta Pinestone Resort, were happy to donate ride proceeds went to the Henwood's.

"They're my neighbors and I wanted to show my support," says Andrus. "I don't think that insurance can really cover what they lost. Money will never do it. But this is my way to donate."

Though Andrus was keen to help out his neighbor, he never actually spoke to them about it. "Actually Kate Hammerschmidt of the Haliburton Chiropractic Centre helped organize it and Delta Pinestone Property Manager Harry Baker supported the cause," says Andrus. "It was a team effort and it felt nice to be able to do something positive."

It was an original and festive way to help a member of the community and sleigh loads of people showed up for the ride. It was so successful that Andrus, who logs with Jack and Freddie and provides sleigh rides each Holiday Season and March Break at the Delta Pinestone, says he might make it a Christmas tradition. "I just might choose a needy family or cause each year and support them in this way."

Jim Henwood, owner of Henwood's Variety was "Surprised to see it in the paper. They raised $260 for us and my wife attended. It was very nice of him and we appreciate the effort. Overall, community support has been amazing."

Those who still wish to support the Henwood's can go to the Haliburton CIBC and donate into a special account set up for them.

Conservative nominees offer range of choices and experience

JERRY GROZELLE
Staff Reporter

The new Conservative Party of Canada is less than a month old and already four people have stepped forward to seek the nomination to represent the Haliburton-Victoria-Brock riding in the next federal election, which is expected in the spring.

The candidate selection process is expected take place in February or March. In the meantime these four people, and possibly more, will be campaigning to gain support of party members.

The following is a brief introduction to the four hopefuls.

Barry Devolin

Haliburton resident Barry Devolin was among the first to declare his intention to seek the nomination. He ran as the Reform Party candidate in this riding in 1993. Since that time, Devolin worked for Chris Hodgson, Mike Harris and Tim Hudak at Queen's Park and Preston Manning on Parliament Hill.

Devolin now operates his three-year-old strategic planning and communications business from Haliburton, where he returned this fall to live with his wife Ursula and son George.

"I'm running because I want a better deal for rural communities," Devolin said. "It's clear the Liberals are not listening to rural concerns. Someone needs to effectively represent the views and interests of central Ontario – of farmers, tourist operators, small business and rural municipalities – on Parliament Hill. I want that job.

"The federal and provincial Liberals and the NDP are urban focused," Devolin said. "There are a number of issues of concern to rural people. They need a voice to bring those concerns forward."

Devolin said agriculture is a primary industry that is very vulnerable. The tourist industry and the retirement community, of which the riding has a high percentage, are concerned about health care. Devolin said more money is needed in rural areas to make sure ambulance response times are as short as possible. He said the funding formula is population-based and that the funding doesn't reflect the huge increase in local population over the summer months when the seasonal residents and the tourists are here.

Devolin also expressed a need to attract businesses to the area to provide jobs so more of the young people from this area can remain here and find work.

Better availability of high speed internet access is essential, he said.

Devolin ran for office under the Reform banner 10 years ago. He said that one of the questions he was often asked at that time was "what experience do you have in politics?"

Since then, he has worked with four politicians, during which time he says he has gained a wealth of experience. Devolin said he would strive to provide the kind of service for which MPP Chris Hodgson was known.

"As a former candidate in this riding and three-time Ontario PC campaign manager, I believe that I have the experience and qualifications needed to get the job done."

Devolin said he considers the nomination much the same as a job interview. The difference is that when the candidate is chosen, those who competed for the position remain committed to a common goal.

"The day after the nomination meeting we're all back on the same team," he said. "I think it will be very interesting. This is considered one of the most winnable ridings."

Jamie Schmale

At 27 years of age, Jamie Schmale says his energy is one of his strong points.

Schmale is the news/sports director of the Y92 radio station in Lindsay. He has worked at the station for the past seven years and has covered all levels of politics.

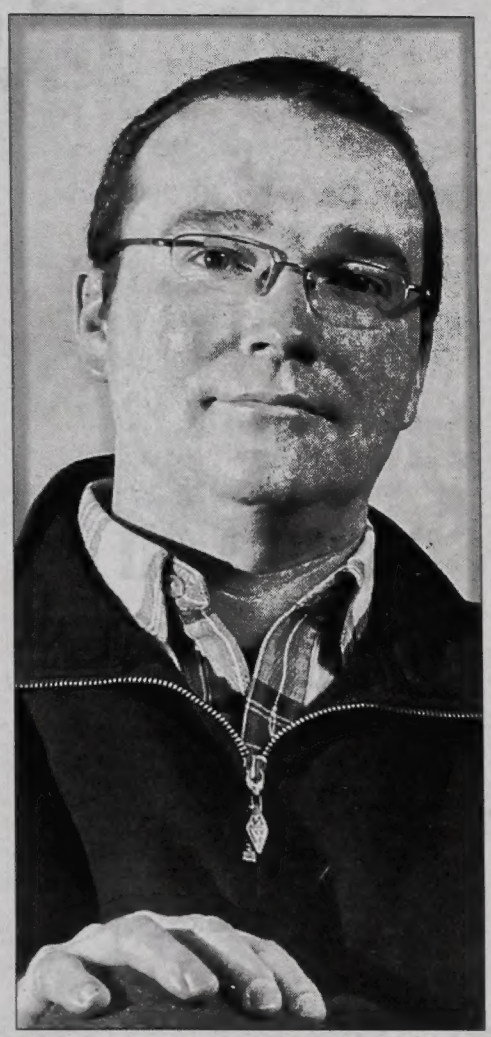
"I think I have a good idea of what the people of this area want in an MP," he said. "My experience and age give me a leg up. I will provide a strong voice and better access to government services."

Schmale said there should be a bigger emphasis on agriculture. He said farmers need help because they face conditions beyond their control. He said there is little incentive for today's youth to remain on the family farms. "It's sad. There is so much history," he said. He would work to make the family farm more viable.

Schmale is against the Liberal government's gun control program. "It's not effective. They've already wasted a billion dollars on it," he said. "It's not working. We need to get illegal guns off the street." He said the current legislation is doing nothing to address the criminal use of firearms.

National defense is another area that needs attention, Schmale said. "It needs to be funded properly," he said. "Our brave men and women of the military

See **All** page 5



Barry Devolin

Jamie Schmale

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2:00-4:00pm
Wigamog Inn Resort
Lake Kashagawigamog

A contribution of non-perishable food for the 4C's would be appreciated

All four say they'd be strong voice for riding

from page 4

are not given proper equipment. The Defense Department should be given an adequate budget and allowed to administer it. They know what they need better than politicians."

Water systems are another important issue for Schmale. He said more money should be brought into the riding to provide infrastructure for its "crumbling" water systems.

Schmale has lived in Lindsay for the past two years and in Bobcaygeon for 12 years. He graduated from Fenelon Falls Secondary School and earned his journalism diploma from Loyalist College.

"As the news director for Y92, I have become familiar with municipal, provincial and federal issues, as well as ongoing community projects," Schmale said. "I am committed to the betterment of this riding."

He is involved with several organizations. He is: Media/Communications Chair of Easter Seals in Kawartha Lakes; Public Relations Committee Member for Community Care - Kawartha Lakes; volunteer with United Way; Referee-In Chief of Lindsay/Ops Minor Hockey and Central Ontario Wolves AAA hockey; Past Referee-In Chief of Bobcaygeon Minor Hockey; and a director of the Haliburton-Victoria-Brock Conservative Association.

"Obviously, a merger between the parties is good news in our riding, where vote splits have been a real advantage to the Liberals, and a disadvantage to democracy," Schmale said. "I feel that helping the community and representing our local views in Ottawa is an important job, and an honour that I hope to have."

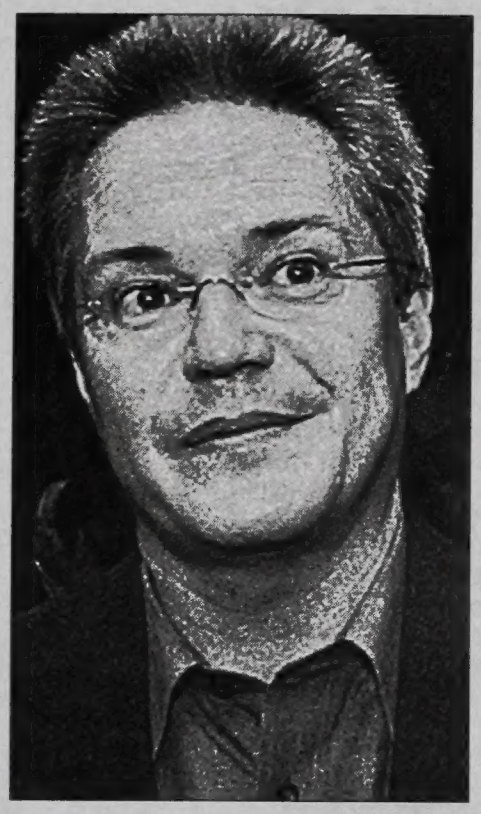
Dan Cornell

Lindsay lawyer Dan Cornell was chosen as the Canadian Alliance candidate recently, edging Peter Taylor by a few votes. Now, he's prepared to go through the process all over again as he seeks the nomination for the new Conservative Party of Canada.

"History is being made tonight as the Haliburton-Victoria-Brock members of the newly minted Conservative Party of Canada gather for the first time," Cornell told a group of supporters at the Admiral Inn a few days after the Canadian Alliance and Progressive Conservative parties merged.

He noted that the ratification vote was overwhelmingly supportive of "uniting the grass roots Canadian Alliance Party with the rich history, tradition and experience of the federal Progressive Conservatives."

Cornell said the merger of the two parties is the start of an enormous



Dan Cornell

amount of work. "Among the many challenges, the new party must now elect a leader, form riding associations across Canada and hold nomination meetings to select candidates to run in the next federal election," he said.

Cornell has assembled a campaign team and is working to build membership support, recruit volunteers and establish contact with local conservatives and national organizers.

"It's absolutely critical that we are highly organized and work closely with our members here and with the national team," he said. "This new party is intended to be inclusive of every member. We want to hear what's important to people and we welcome new ideas and fresh thinking."

Pulling the two parties together is something Cornell says he is prepared to do. He considers himself a "bridge builder and a consensus maker." He feels those qualities are essential as the new riding association prepares to send the best candidate to Ottawa to represent this riding.

Cornell is a long-time Lindsay resident with business and personal interests across most of the riding. The 48 year-old has 23 years experience in the legal profession and is considered to be an expert in Canadian constitutional law and a leading authority in aviation law. His legal experience includes serving as Crown Attorney, family law, corporate/commercial law, civil litigation and providing legal services for real estate, wills and trusts. He opened his law practice in Lindsay in 1980.

He is active in the community, serving as a minor league softball coach. An avid hockey enthusiast, he plays in a men's league in Ops. He is a pilot, a certified ski instructor and a member of the Canadian Ski Instructor Alliance.

Cornell says the riding "needs representation from someone who knows and understands local issues – someone with proven intelligence, business sense and political acumen to ensure funding for critical projects and support for initiatives that bring long term prosperity to the region."

David Scrymgeour

Both the Progressive Conservatives and the Canadian Alliance have shown a tremendous amount of confidence in David Scrymgeour. He was appointed Executive Director of the newly formed Conservative Party of Canada. He accepted the position on an interim basis, knowing there was a strong possibility he would seek nomination for the Haliburton-Victoria-Brock riding.

Scrymgeour said he had a goal of "bringing the conservative family together nationally" as Executive Director of the new party. Now, he believes, he can best channel his energy into winning this riding for the new party as its candidate in the next federal election. As a team builder, both in politics and the business sector, Scrymgeour is confident he can achieve that goal.

As a relative newcomer to the riding – he currently lives in Lindsay but is looking for a house with waterfront in the riding – he said he doesn't underestimate the challenge of gaining the confidence of the people in this area.

He came to this area to assist with Laurie Scott's bid to replace MPP Chris Hodgson when Hodgson decided to retire from politics. He liked the area so much, he decided he wanted to live here. "Win, lose or draw, I'm here to stay," he said.

Scrymgeour believes his background in business – he has been a trouble shooter, rebuilding businesses with problems and he has developed a number of his own businesses – and his political experience over the past four years give him an advantage that could help him defeat incumbent Liberal candidate John O'Reilly.

"As a businessman, I understand what it means to build a business; to meet a payroll," he said. "It takes hard work and intelligent risk to realize the desired outcome and rewards. That's the foundation of any community – people who work hard and take intelligent risk.

He believes his experience building businesses led to his successes in politics. He was an advisor to both PC leader Peter MacKay and CA leader Stephen Harper in the negotiations that led to the amalgamation.

While working with Laurie Scott, Scrymgeour says he became very familiar with the issues in this riding.

"The people who have come to know me are the people who have enthusiastically encouraged me to seek the nomination," he said. He said he has the support of key people from every corner of the riding and he is making new contacts continually. "I have to prove myself to the people of the community and earn their trust," Scrymgeour said. "I will be working toward that goal until the election."

Although he is a new resident of the area, Scrymgeour has been cottaging on Lake Kashagawigamog since he was eight.

"Life, for me, is about stewardship and contribution to community," he said. "I've always been involved in the church, sports and community organizations. I'm interested in historical societies and I believe in the value of the environment. I couldn't be happier than I am in this community."

Scrymgeour said with the amalgamation of the PC and CA parties there is "finally a democratic opposition that is on the way to forming a government...

"When our farmers can't sell their beef and when the government spends one and a half billion dollars to register guns, that hurts our community. The federal government has never been so important. What happens around the world impacts us more than it ever did."

David Scrymgeour

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Lee Wingett and Gord Kidd

After a delicious breakfast at the Kozy Korner, actor Mike Myers hams it up with the staff of the Haliburton restaurant. From left: Carol Monaghan, Pat Schwab, Janet Tice, Deb O'Reilly, Donna Creelman, Kim Whetstone and Kim Wendt.

Actor Mike Myers' visit to the Kozy creates a buzz

from page 1

ing Haliburtonians in the kitchen. Then he donned an elf hat and impishly posed with Tice for another photo.

"We couldn't do anything for two hours after he left," says Tice, who's still glowing with the thrill of it all.

As if that wasn't excitement enough, the next day he returned for a second helping.

Tice had taken the film with the previous day's photos over to Perfect Prints so she said to Myers "If I go over and get the photos, would you sign them?"

He willingly obliged and even asked for a copy of the photo of him with Tice. (Maybe he wanted to show it to Will Farrell to compare who would make the better Elf, that other holiday movie.)

"We couldn't believe how nice he is," says Tice, who returned Myers' favour by giving him both breakfasts for free. When he protested her generosity, Tice told him that "The next time you come I'll let you pay and I'll let you pay for the whole restaurant if you want."

Myers laughed and said goodbye to his new fan club.

Church starts new year with a swim

Want a bracing start to the New Year?

You can join the congregation of Allsaw Pentecostal Church for their annual Polar Bear Dip in Lake Kashagawigamog.

After an all-night service at the church, followed by a big breakfast, church goers will head over to the public beach at Ingoldsby where John Mitchell will have drilled a hole in the ice.

People are invited to join them at 1 p.m. – bring along your bathing suit.

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New Year's Eve "An Intimate Celebration"
5-course gourmet dinner.
Contemporary DJ dancing. Party favours & midnight champers.
Door prizes include out-of-town accommodations.
December 31st commencing 7:00pm
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Eye-Opener Brunch
Last chance to let old habits die hard.
January 1st
9:00am - 1:00pm
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New Year's Eve "Family Feast" Buffet
An evening guaranteed to wear you (and the kids) out!
Fun filled evening with live, interactive magician.
Late-evening Bon Fire & hot chocolate.
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County council questions Chamber's numbers

from page 1

"Did they count everybody who drove through," he asked.

Hall said the Chamber handles 50,000 telephone calls a year and 25,000 visitors. He said visitor spending in the county totalled more than $97-million in 2003. The report speculates that at the current rate of growth, tourism revenues can be expected to increase to $110- to $114-million by 2005.

Christenson suggested that the marketing strategy focus on people who live within a two to three hour drive of Haliburton County. He also noted that the number of U.S. visitors is down because Canada didn't support the U.S. in Iraq.

The Chamber is asking the County to increase funding from last year's level of $135,000 to at least $165,000. "Tourists could be lost to competitors if marketing dollars aren't continued," Hall told council. "Tourism is huge in Haliburton County."

"It's a challenge to get the marketing message out on a budget of $135,000," Hall said.

Some of the Chamber's marketing initiatives were outlined, including trade shows, the Destination Guide, the county website, the Chamber office activities and marketing partnerships, to name a few.

Hall said the Chamber plans to develop better media and trade relations. The strategy includes trying to develop unpaid media coverage of the county by building on existing relationships and developing new ones. Building partnerships with writers and other industry people who can promote the area is one component of the strategy. Launching an on-line media room and conducting media familiarization tours and making the most of relationships with members of the media are also on the agenda.

"Internet marketing needs to be expanded," Hall said.

Council members were told there is a direct relationship between the dollars spent on marketing and the response in terms of numbers of tourists visiting the county and the amount of money they spend.

"We're spending less than half of what neighbouring counties are spending on marketing," Hall said, adding that a small increase in funding can have a large economic return.

"We want our partnership with the county to be an outstanding success," Hall said.

The purpose of last week's visit by the Chamber representatives was to give council a heads-up on the direction the Chamber is taking and to provoke some thought about why the county should increase its support for its marketing initiative.

County CAO Gary King said the draft budget should be ready in February and the Chamber representatives have been invited to attend the February meeting, which is scheduled for the third Wednesday of the month.

OPP tries to answer Highlands East's call for more service

SHERYL LOUCKS
Staff Reporter

The Ontario Provincial Police have stepped up their reporting to Highlands East after the municipality complained of not receiving adequate service and investigated the possibility of being policed out of the Bancroft OPP office.

At the inaugural council meeting a few weeks ago, the new council was updated on the issue via a letter from Minden OPP detachment commander Sgt. Bob Walli. Walli's letter dated October 7 says that in response to a policing meeting on September 25 in Wilberforce supervisors in his detachment "will make an effort to communicate personally with [Reeve Keith Tallman] on a monthly basis to give you an opportunity to have meaningful dialogue with them on what is happening in Highlands East."

Walli's letter says the detachment is also currently undertaking a review of the uniform shift schedule that will gather input from within the detachment and the community.

Walli wrote, "It is hoped that with input from all parties we may be able to arrive at a schedule that would better serve the needs of the four municipalities... by targeting police service in times where it is needed most."

Walli and acting detachment commander M. Quigley also attached policing statistics from July until the end of November which show the calls within the county and specifically in Highlands East. The numbers suggest that calls for service from Highlands East make up approximately 11 per cent of the Minden detachment's work load.

Quigley's report included two other reports of interest. He summarized an investigation of break and enters on six properties in Highlands East that resulted in the arrest of two males and the recovery of a large quantity of stolen property and firearms. The second incident was of an investigation involving the specialized units for canine, tactics and rescue, drug enforcement and forensic identification personnel. It resulted in the seizure of a large quantity of illicit drugs and a firearm.

Reeve Tallman was not appeased by the effort of the detachment to improve communications with the municipality. He commented briefly and tersely on the continuation of services from the Minden detachment by saying "it's too bad."

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Putting the happy in the New Year

IT'S OUR NEW YEAR'S tradition to talk about some of the things that give us happiness as we contemplate the dawn of a new year.

Silver linings: While it was wonderful to spend the Christmas with family and friends, the holiday was a bit of a bust as far as the weather was concerned. It's been a long time since there have been that many green holes in the winter blanket of snow. Snowmobile trails are not yet open and cross country skis are left to lean listlessly against the nearest wall since there's no place nearby to have them glide across the snow. However, skiing at Sir Sam's was fabulous, and so too was the rare gift of being able to skate across local lakes. There must have been dozens of people out on Head Lake over the weekend – kids trying out new skates, couples holding hands and boys and girls of all ages playing pick-up hockey.

echo **editorial**

— martha perkins

A marvellous sight and one of the best memories anyone can have, mottled-green Christmas or not.

Giving it an honest try: Haliburton merchants are to be commended for banding together to stay open on many of the nights leading up to Christmas. Although there were some very lonely hours spent in the stores they shouldn't give up. Local shoppers just have to get used to living in a town where the streets, as they say, don't roll up at 6 p.m..

It didn't help that there was so little snow. With bare roads leading out of the Highlands, many people found it easy to shop out of town. But store owners should keep the faith for next year (and deck their halls with a few more Christmas lights to create that festive shopping atmosphere.)

The strength of the human spirit: For every story of a Christmas filled with happiness it seemed there was another one of sadness. Many families in the Highlands faced their first Christmas without a special loved one and for some, the pain of loss was still raw and exposed.

With so many expectations of joy associated with the season, that sense of loss is deeply magnified at Christmas. Worries over ill health also don't take a holiday. Although the glitter and festivities managed to give them a distraction from their woes, many people had to cope with grave realities.

And yet, everyone pulled through, finding at least some small happiness in their day thanks in large part to having the love and support of their families. Life is indeed a gift to be cherished for all its fragility.

Goldie Dudman: Along a lonely stretch of road between Kinmount and Fenelon Falls there's a tiny oasis of Las Vegas. Goldie Dudman must love Christmas with the passion of a child because the display of lights and decorations at her house next to Dudman Construction is absolute magic, especially for travellers who find themselves heading home to Haliburton on dark winter nights.

This year she's outdone herself and if you want to give yourself a treat – and this one has no calories – then find a reason to drive by. It's a marvel to behold.

Haliburton dam *photo by DARREN LUM/Echo*

In birth and death

marion hare

perspectives

One particular day, two specific items creating a myriad of possible contrasts and comparisons, say much about where we have come from in the past century and perhaps gives us hints of where we are heading. On that one day from the radio waves I heard that finally the old-fashioned Merry-Go-Round in North Bay has been completed - fashioned with hand-carved animals. It is expected to be a popular pastime for next summer. Later the same day, on TV, I heard and saw all of the celebration surrounding the last commercial flight of the Concord. These two items might even sum up a hundred years of our western way of living. They may offer promise for the coming interesting century.

The fact that the one has come back into our world at the same time as the other is going out could be a commentary on our slowly returning awareness that the past still has some treats that we can enjoy. This Merry-Go-Round celebrates so much that is worthwhile, keeping tenuous hold of the simple pleasures in our frenetic world. We go up and down and round and round going nowhere, but having a delightful time while doing it. We sit on solid, wooden, meticulously hand-carved animals not flimsy, plastic molds. We laugh, we watch others enjoy the same ride - in fact, we dawdle.

The Merry-Go-Round is not a sleek, marvel of modern invention, but the riders actively participate. Not so the Concord. Although it could make the minds and imaginations of those watching soar as it raced its occupants long distances in a short time, inside in that great moment of anticipation when the sound barrier was crossed, all was absolute silence, outside, all was darkness. Speed, not delight was its raison d'etre. Having been hampered by some severe fly-over restrictions, over time it lost its appeal, its newness, and its need. The Concord is no more.

The Concord and the Merry-Go Round both celebrate our ability to imagine and thus create. In some ways they are both means of transportation. The one which merely goes round in circles seems to have retained great longevity. The other built to speed us from place to place has lost its meaning. Both, however, have displayed human ingenuity and meticulous craftsmanship. The Concord did not spring full-blown from some inventor's mind. It was part of a continuum of questioning minds. So too, in its time, was probably the Merry-Go-Round.

Two such items juxtaposed at the same time offer so many opportunities to let our minds wander. Poets may one day even wax elegant about this anomaly. But here at the beginning of this new year and early in this new century one could even become hopeful that it is no longer the 'in' thing to always search out the new and, with little thought, discard the old. So much that is new is important to our lives, but much of it is accepted for the single rationale that is it new. Equally so much that is old too readily gets discarded just because it is old.

Gradually, in the past few years, signs that we as a society are becoming more discerning are appearing. The growing movement from the cities of families with children as they realize that there are many advantages to a less hecticly paced life may become a ground swell.

Maybe in this century our common sense will reimpose itself . The best that the past, present and future have to offer will allow us to zip from place to place with ever increasing speed when enough of us see the need for it, yet take the time to appreciate the craftsmanship and find delight going round and round and up and down, going nowhere just for the joy of it all. That is my wish for the New Year.

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HALIBURTON COUNTY

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Now I lay me down to sleep

"Are you scared daddy?" The question caught me off guard. It's not the kind of remark that I expect from a 4-year-old who is not brandishing a razor sharp implement.

"No Carmen, why do you ask?" I replied nervously, as I patted her down.

"Because if you are, you can sleep with me."

Her big brown eyes held legitimate tenderness and warmth, even as she hurled a trusting and devoted teddy bear across the room and patted the spot on the bed where it once lay.

"Well, I'm not scared sweetheart." I said, as I picked up the bewildered stuffed animal and put it back in its rightful place. "I just came in to kiss you good night."

"Are you sure you're not scared?"

"Yup," I replied, "I'm not at all afraid"

"Well, is mommy mad at you then?" She asked perhaps a bit too enthusiastically. "Because if she is, you can sleep here!" Once again the teddy bear took sudden and violent flight.

"That's nice to know," I smiled.

"We could hide under the blankets and giggle, it'd be fun!"

tales from

vinegar hill

steve galea

"But mommy's not mad at me," I assured her.

"Are you positive?" She asked incredulously.

I gave it some thought and once again arrived at the same startling conclusion. Mommy, I mean my wife, was not mad at me and hadn't been for the entire holiday season. To tell you the truth, it felt kind of creepy. I'm a freelance writer — without the need to grovel and mutter apologies, I 'd have nothing productive to do at all. Suddenly, I faced the spectre of unemployment.

I went downstairs for a cup of tea and brought up one for Carol who was lying in bed reading. I quickly considered spilling it, but discarded the idea as too amateurish.

"Darn Christmas miracles," I mumbled.

"What's that Pudding Cup?" Carol asked as she sipped and smiled contentedly.

"Ah nothing," I answered.

As a husband, I felt like an abject failure. Here I was, working from home, day in and day out. I had more opportunity to get on my wife's nerves than any man alive, and yet somehow, today, I couldn't pull it off. I told myself that it happens to every man sooner or later and that I shouldn't worry.

"I'm sorry," I whispered, "this has never happened to me before. It's not you, honest. It's just the pressure of the holidays."

"Did you say something?" She asked nicely.

I turned away and she went back to reading

"Good book?" I stuttered, knowing full well that she hates being interrupted when she reading. It was a half-hearted attempt but I thought that the hovering might help.

"Why yes Sugar Plum, it is," she answered.

Her bright smile did not do so much as waver. So I gave her a minute to get right back into the novel and interrupted yet again.

"What's it about?"

Immediately, and without provocation, she explained. It was a long, patient and detailed synopsis, filled with highlights and a brief critique of the writing style and naratrive. Shocked into submission, I somehow endured the sordid details of a historically accurate romance novel. And, though it all, she remained absolutely cordial.

It occurred to me that aliens might have replaced my wife. I quickly quizzed her on unmentionable parts of my anatomy. Fortunately, her unbridled laughter and quick demonstration of poor spatial estimations led to me believe that the spaceship had not stropped on Vinegar Hill.

"Darn aliens," I muttered.

Carol peeked over her book and smiled angelically. This called for drastic measures.

I began cracking knuckles — on my toes.

She put her book down, casually looked over and said, "Did you enjoy Christmas?"

Before I knew it we were into another warm and loving conversation about the holidays, our family life and how fortunate we were. It was downright unnatural. I thought that this is how those World War One veterans must have felt when they met the Germans in No-man's land at Christmas. It was nice, but also a little nerve-wracking.

"Oh, and by the way," she added agreeably, as almost an afterthought, "don't crack your toes, Fish Cakes. It's not good for you."

Sensing weakness, I responded by playing Popcorn using only my toes and a few other select bodily functions. It was a last ditch effort.

By the third verse, she was grimacing and I knew that our relationship was not in trouble after all.

Soon after, I found myself in Carmen's room for the second and final time that evening.

"Daddy, are you scared or is mommy mad at you?"

"Actually, a little bit of both," I grinned triumphantly. Then I flung the teddy bear across the room and snuggled right up.

pic of the past

Grenville Schrader, who lives in Oakville but returns often to his Highlands homestead near Gelert, sent us this photo of a school house in Snowdon. Not much is known about who is in the photo, but the two girls identified in the centre are sisters who were born in 1890 and 1893. Mr. Schrader says the school house is still standing and is in excellent condition.

letters to the editor

Notice of Assessment confuses

To the Editor

The following letter was first sent to the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation.

After reading my recent Notice of Assessment and comparing it to 2001, I was shocked, to put it mildly. My first reaction was – how could the value of a property go up 52% in two years? Well, there are a number of reasons.

The first and foremost is an attempt to cloud the issue. How many people are able, or even willing, to penetrate the haze, grasp the issues, unravel the problems and arrive at a sound solution?

What we are doing by paying taxes is a very simple and clear matter. We ought to pay for services which we receive. Since these services are in no way tied to the contribution of the individual, the transaction is discriminatory in its present form. It is easy to see that these are taxpayers who, based on the valuation of their property, everything else being equal, pay different amounts of taxes, for the same services received.

The value of someone's property does in no way indicate a taxpayer's ability to pay. A taxpayer with a higher-valued property may not have a higher income. It cannot even be argued that they should buy less-expensive property.

See **Property** *page 10*

The Echo made of the right stuff

To The Editor

As another year draws to an end I can't help but reflect on *the Echo* articles. Sometimes they fill my heart with pride for people involved; others disappoint me to exasperation in my fellow man. Then I read a hilarious, though, deeply serious stuff article by that lovable rascal from Vinegar Hill and decided not to cancel my subscription just yet.

You folks at the Echo put out one heck of a paper. It's a people paper, it's not the overloaded with trumped up drama and sensationalism that other, lesser-read papers depend on to stay alive.

It's just us people doing things, people saying things, but they're our people. Right or wrong they say and do what they believe. We agree or disagree rather strongly at times but we still love them and respect them and forgive them.

We live in a part of the land where God has provided a generous amount of natural resources but a trip to Haliburton last week opened my heart and mind to one of the greatest renewable natural resources that he ever blessed a town with.

People: People smiling, helping-encouraging-

See **Haliburton** *page 10*

Boonieville by Charlie Teljeur

Greed, a motivating factor for Highlands East Council raises

To the Editor

How very noteworthy that Highlands East Councillors have voted themselves a pay raise in excess of 30%.

It should prove interesting when this group has to negotiate a new union contract and employees ask for five or ten percent, plus other benefits. How can council deny their demands when they have given themselves this ridiculous increase? What is the justification? Certainly not a greater workload from the last council.

I suggest greed as the motivating factor. The previous rate of $15,000 for Reeve, $12,000 for Deputy and $10,000 for Councillors was a fair compensation package for Highlands East council.

C.A.O. Sharon Stoughton Craig constantly remarks about the cost of running Country Good Times in Wilberforce and Horseshoe Days Festival in Gooderham. She gives no consideration to how very beneficial these events are to the entire Municipality.

When we consider the raise given to the Reeve would be very close to covering the cost of both these events.

Bill Howe commented about how difficult it is to get volunteers involved in working on Community Events.

Perhaps a word of praise from council and the C.A.O. for these people instead of constant criticism would help.

I would also point out that any shortfall from Gooderham Horseshoe Days has been picked up from the Glamorgan Recreation Reserve. This money was in reserve at the time of amalgamation and was provided in entirety by Ward 3 (Glamorgan) rate payers.

C. Viner
Gooderham

OPP thanks county for generosity

To the Editor:

On behalf of the officers at the Haliburton Highlands Detachment I would like to thank the residents of Haliburton County who made donations during our "Fill a Cruiser with Food Campaign". Thanks to the generosity of the public, we were able to fill two cruisers with food and help support our local food banks. This campaign once again proves that the citizens of this county are second to none.

S/Sgt. R.O. Walli
Detachment Commander
Haliburton Highlands Detachment

Haliburton an example for all to know

from page 9

advising-and showing genuine concern for one another.

When I drove homeward I thought that if these people, all people, our people, don't change after this spiritually joyous season, Haliburton will be a place, that others will just want to come to, be a part of.

You folks at *the Echo* are leaders in the field when it comes to toleration, fairness and equality for all. I'm sure no one in the County will dispute that. Keep it up and god bless you all.

Richard H. Henderson
West Guilford.

Property assessment stinks of corruption and subservience

from page 9

Experience shows that the market can and is being manipulated to drive prices up. To impose a higher price for the same service therefore it must be seen as an attempt to aid and abet such a development and discriminate against those of lesser means.

When we examine this type of taxation from the municipality's point of view, it has to be a welcome development. Carrying it to its logical conclusion, the day is not far off when the cottagers foot practically the whole bull for the municipal operations and receive hardly any of the services. Not that I am interested in receiving all the services which the villagers receive. This would be unrealistic. I would not even mind to pay a reasonable surcharge; but I find it repugnant to be considered a cash cow to be milked to death.

As for the real estate sales industry's point of view, it seems quite obvious that it was a welcome development for them, too. After all, their commissions are based on the price of the transactions.

As I see this, however, there is a much more sinister motive behind this form of taxation. MPAC is not merely recording market fluctuations, it establishes a baseline. Nobody would even consider offering a property for sale below this line, today. This amounts to actively moving the market into an upward direction, which eliminates an ever-increasing number of society members from the market and directs these assets into the hands of the predators sitting on tip of the social pyramid. If there is any doubt, one only needs to look at the widening gulf between the 2 extremes. The plebians, the ones who produce these assets, end up with nothing, while the top caste bulges at the seams.

Your statement that the method called "current value assessment" is used by most provinces and other countries, indicated to me not that this is a fair system, it is an indication of the inroads that the oppressive and evil dictatorship of international capitalism as made into this country. In plain English, it shows to whom our various levels of government are subservient. As our recent provincial election shows, no matter who governs us, they have no qualms about lying to get in, doing an about face and bowing to their real masters.

Looking at the foregoing, as well as the expense of running the system, it has to be called a crooked imposition.

Considering that this is an evil system, it would only serve to legitimize it and direct the attention away from the real problem, if I were to object to this Assessment on a specific comparative basis. I, therefore, object to it on the ground that this system does not provide a just basis for taxation, but facilitates the upward movement of these assets to make them accessible to the top caste of society.

Most of the arguments which I have advanced do not specifically apply to cottage assessments only but apply to the method as a whole.

Anton Gutri
Drag Lake

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Easter Seals 800-668-6252
easter seal society

January 10 & 11, 2004
(snow date of February 21 & 22)

Over 50 competitors will set out from Head Lake Park, cross the frozen lake, go through Glebe Park and link up with the snowmobile trails that go by the Haliburton Landfill before doubling back and crossing the finishing line in Head Lake Park.

Volunteers are needed to help out on race weekend: jobs include trail work, team handlers, assisting with timing, etc. Volunteer meeting Thursday January 8 at 7:00pm, Dysart Municipal Building.

For more info contact Tanya McCready & Hank DeBruin
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Santa brings two new trucks to fire dep't

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

SHERYL LOUCKS//Echo

These two new shiny candy apple red beauties are the new pride and joy of the Highlands East Fire Department. Proud of the acquisition are Fire Chief Don Middleton, Reeve Keith Tallman and Councillors Rick Forget and Donna Graham.

It is out with the old and in with the new at the Highlands East Fire Department with everything from vehicles to pay scales.

The department recently acquired two new F250, three-quarter tons of muscle in fire engine red. The trucks are replacing an old Bell telephone truck and what once might have been an ambulance that the department had been using.

Fire Chief Don Middleton says the new vehicles are designed for emergency medical first response. The compartments provide easier to access equipment and the four-by-fours give the department a better chance at getting into remote areas. Middleton says it is an advantage to have a standard style rescue unit instead of trying to convert a different style of vehicle into one.

Middleton says the trucks were budgeted at $45,250 each but he thinks that once all of the bills come in the trucks will have cost slightly less than that. A federal grant from the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program covered 45 per cent of the cost of the new vehicles.

The old truck is being refurbished and will be put into service in Highland Grove and the van will be used as an equipment unit at the station in Tory Hill.

The department will also receive a $14,400 grant from the federal government for emergency response training.

During a recent council meeting Councillor Rick Forget expressed his concern over the way the firefighters in the newly amalgamated fire department are being paid. He says there were 140 calls in Ward 4 and next highest number of calls in any other ward was 30. The way the pay scale works someone who responds to 10 calls could be paid the same as someone who responds to 50.

Middleton says that at the beginning of the year $1,000 is put in the bank for each firefighter and they are paid based on the percentage of calls they attend out of their fire hall. However that means if one hall only has 30 calls and a firefighter responds to 27 calls they would get 90 per cent of the possible $1,000 whereas if another hall responds to 140 calls and a firefighter responds to 127 calls, or 90 per cent, they would get the same pay.

Middleton says not only is the system unfair but it also causes problems for him because whatever is not paid out of the money allotted to pay for firefighters is spent on training and this means he never knows what his training budget is until the end of the year. To his knowledge no other department works this way and this is not how the former township fire departments used to work; somehow they have slipped into this system since amalgamation.

Forget and Middleton are both suggesting that the firefighters be polled on how they want to be paid and that a consensus is established that is amenable to the municipality.

A new software program that the Highlands East department will be piloting for the province will likely also help to track the number of calls the different halls are responding to. Middleton says ensuring that all of the halls use the same system to record calls will also create allow them to compare apples to apples when it comes time to pay firefighters.

Highlands East was chosen to pilot the program, which will be provided free of charge, because the provincial Fire Marshall's Office wants to see how the program and format will work for remote, rural and small halls that may not have access to computers or the internet when calls are recorded.

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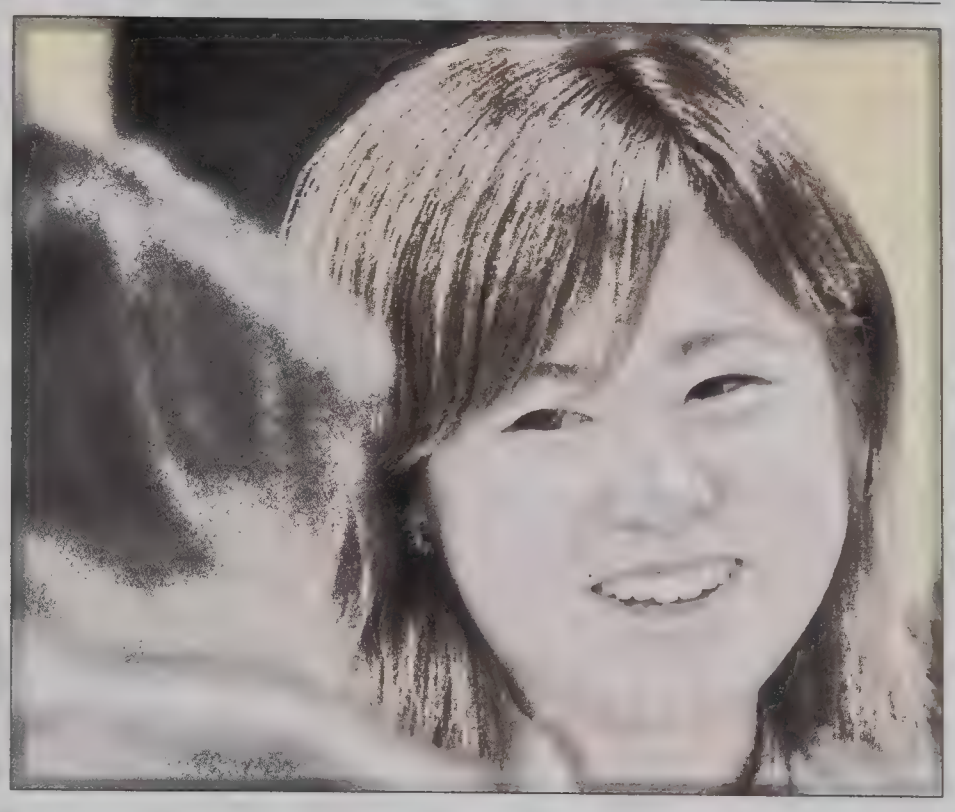
Photos by Martha Perkins

With near perfect conditions on Saturday, dozens of Highlanders put on their skates and took to the ice on lakes around the county. On Head Lake some devoted hockey fans have even flooded a rink on the lake, making way for some fast-paced shinny. As long as it stays cold and there is no snow the ideal skating conditions will continue. In these photos, clockwise from top right: Nolan Flood plays his own game of chase the ball while his parents, Brent and Melanie, and older brother Owen play hockey in the next photo; Krystal Harris, who was in Haliburton for the holidays to visit with her grandmother, Lois Emmerson, played so hard she got hot enough to take off her coat; three generations spend some quality time with one another as Jim Perog, his daughter Christine Bellefleur and grandson Aaron take a spin.

SHERYL LOUCKS/Echo



DARREN LUM/Echo

Above: Yuka Horie has been smiling often since coming to the Highlands.
Left: Masae Uji stands with host father John Stouffer on a warm winter day on the stairs leading to *The Echo* office.

Japanese exchange students embrace Christmas

SHERYL LOUCKS

Staff Reporter

Three Japanese exchange students were surprised in November when Santa Claus appeared everywhere in stores, parades and commercials. A Christmas like they had never experienced before was on its way.

The three students are here for a one-year exchange. Masae Uji and Ken Takayama arrived in Haliburton last January with an exchange program called Muskoka Language International and will be returning to Japan on Jan. 11. Yuka Horie is a Rotary exchange student, who arrived in Haliburton last August and will remain until the end of next August. All three are 17 years old and attending the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School.

Masae says in Japan her family would put up a small Christmas tree only about two feet high with balls and small ornaments on it. This year she donned her boots and went out to the woods with the Stouffers, her host family, to cut down a tree.

"I was surprised about that," she says.

Yuka says she was astonished to learn about how Canadians exchange gifts at Christmas, lots of gifts.

"Christmas in Japan not special like here. Just special dinner, usually chicken. I'm so excited [about the gift exchange]. Big surprise. I didn't know [Canadians celebrated Christmas with a gift exchange]. Presents just (for) birthdays in Japan," she explained.

She said it was funny to her that a boy who visited the Careys, the family currently hosting her, was just as surprised that the Japanese do not celebrate Christmas the same way as she was. Yuka plans on sharing the presents tradition with her family in Japan by giving them a beautiful wire sculpture pagoda she made in art class.

For Ken Takayama, who traveled from Osaka, Japan to stay with Reverend Christopher Grieves and his family, Christmas has become a very special learning experience. In Japan his family would have a party on Christmas day but he never really understood why. In Haliburton, he has had the opportunity to learn through Grieves about the story of the birth of Jesus Christ and how the festive season is celebrated in the life of the Anglican Church.

The time spent in the church and with the Grieves family has given him an insight into a Christian Christmas and why the season is more than just one day to them.

When it comes to the other trimmings around the holiday season, the way people decorate their houses, the music, and traditional turkey dinner, the students had mixed reactions. Masae says the turkey was "not so bad" but she found it a bit dry and prefers chicken.

All three, particularly Yuka, have enjoyed seeing the lights on people's houses. Masae says some of the songs we hear here are translated in Japanese. Her favourites are Jingles Bells and We Wish You A Merry Christmas.

Masae travelled to Scarborough to visit with the Stouffers' family on Boxing Day for a big dinner. She says the number of people was a bit overwhelming but she feels very lucky to have been given so many lovely presents such as a birthstone necklace after she celebrated her birthday in Canada.

She says this year in Canada has given her a wonderful chance to explore another culture which she hopes to continue to do during her future career.

DARREN LUM/Echo

Horie works on her pagoda she hopes to give to her family for Christmas.

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THE ECHO

Sports

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Storm Atom AEs going to big show

WADE McINNES

Special to the Echo

Among the endangered species the Eagles are the deadliest predators in the sky. Much to the dismay of Greenpeace, two flocks of Eagles went down due to a wicked Storm on Dec.21 in Minden: first the Ennismore Eagles then the Essa Eagles as the Highland Storm Atom AE team ripped and twisted their way to the top capturing their home Silverstick Hockey tournament.

The team, which is guided by the coaching staff of Bernie Upton, Andy Salvatori, Josh Burke and Don and Janice Lewis, commends their players on a solid weekend performance starting with goal tender Rob Lewis, Chris Judge, Jonathan Rae, Samantha Tallman,Marcie Dick, Brady Kent, Stephan Schollig; Jacob Kidd,Jonathan Salvatori, Colby Cunningham, Mike Mazara, Dillon Upton and Nick Freeman.

This team will represent our Highland Storm Regional Qualifier at the International Tournament of Champions in Pelham, Ontario on January 8,9,10, and 11/2004. They will be up against five other Canadian champions and six American champions all competing to win the life size sterling Silver Hockey Stick for the number one Atom AE hockey team in North America.

This four-day tournament down by Niagara Falls will be an experience to remember and we wish our Storm team the best of luck in Pelham. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our minor hockey sponsors, the Atom AE coaching staff and parents for making this tournament a success. A special thanks to Patti Tallman for all her hard work and dedication. Excellent job!!!

MATTHEW WALLS/Echo

Storms to victory: Haliburton county's Highland Storm Atoms won the 2003 Silverstick Championship on Sunday, Dec. 21st, with a 4 to 1 win. On Ice (L-R): Rob Lewis, Samantha Tallman, Marcie Dick. Front Row: Jacob Kidd, Michael Mazara, Dillon Upton, Colby Cunningham, Chris Judge. Middle Row: Nick Freeman, Jon Salvatori, Brady Kent, Stephan Schollig Johnathan Rae. Back Row: Assistant coach Andy Salvatori, manager Janice Lewis, trainer Don Lewis and coach Bernie Upton.

PeeWee AE Silver Stick a hit

WADE McINESS

Special to the Echo

Actually it was a lot of hits in a good old Canadian rocken sockem hockey tournament on Dec 27/28/03. The weather was spring like and the turkey had long digested as 11 and 12 year olds laced em up at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena. In the Championship final the Elmvale Coyotes squeaked out a 3-2 victory over the Fergus Highlanders in a nail biter. The Coyotes will represent the Highland Storm Qualifier in Pelham in

January 2004. Although our Storm PeeWee "AE" team didn't make the medal rounds they played hard for four games against tough opponents from Fergus, Oro, Elmvale and Belleville. The goaltending tandem of Curtis Nichol and Curtis Jennings played outstanding stopping a multitude of shots. The Skaters Kelly Outram, Jay Winfield, Alex Lopez, Daniel Langpohl,Tanner Cowan, Keaton Gadway, Alex Treharne, Ryan Richards, Adam VanNood,Stephen Nelson and Dylan Reynolds never quit even against insurmountable odds.

Most of the other PeeWee squads had 14 or 15 skaters

See **Thanks** *page 15*

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DARREN LUM/Echo

A Storm player breaks into the neutral zone, chasing after a loose puck during the third periodl against the Fergus Highlanders in the opening round of play.

Thanks owed to Highland Storm coaches

from page 14

proving there is strength in numbers. With five eligible

Storm PeeWee kids playing "AAA" hockey for the Lindsay Wolves our numbers and talent pool have been hurt but our remaining players still show alot of heart. I would like to commend the coaching staff, Richard VanNood,Louie Reynolds, Mike Lopez, Hugh Nichol, Drew Winfield and all the PeeWee Storm parents for keeping things positive for their young players even though they haven't been having alot of success. Also thanks to the team for help in making the tournament a success with special thanks to Drew and Carolyn Winfield. Excellent Job!!! This tournament was the last of the Silversticks this winter and we hope everyone had a fun time. Good Luck to all our Storm Teams in the up coming O.M.H.A playdowns. We encourage all local residents to click off the T.V, chuck the comforter and come on out and support our minor hockey teams during the playoffs. Look for game schedules in the local papers, *The Times* and *The Haliburton County Echo*. Listen to the Moose and Canoe, Thanks and go get em Storm. Wade MacInnes

Coach pins program success on experience

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

The future is looking bright for the fledgling HHSS wrestling program.

Head coach Paul Klose believes learning comes from watching and practising with other experienced wrestlers.

"We had some good results last year, but one of the reasons why we're improving in the standings this year is because of experience," Klose said. "With a few more people with experience the beginners learn more. It's not just only learning from the coaches they're learning from other experienced wrestlers at practice."

This year with the elimination of the Ontario Academic Credit, the veterans on the team are all in Grade 12. They have two years of wrestling experience, On a team that boasts nearly three times as many juniors as there are seniors leadership has not been affected.

"The leaders will always come through," Klose said, adding maturity is far more important to leadership than age. "In terms of leadership the team is stronger than last year because of the added [wrestling] experience."

"Owen [Schell], Dave [Balaski], [Ted] Ecclestone, and Melanie [Howitt], certainly...they're role-models for the young wrestlers," Klolse said.

First year wrestler Dave Balaski, who has captained the rugby and football teams, is seeking a gold medal after winning three silvers and one bronze this season.

Without a doubt, Balaski says, wrestling, though brief at three minutes for a match, is as physically demanding, if not more so, and taxing mentally than other sports. The three minutes is "like playing a quarter of football and that's the same as in rugby".

He adds, "It's a team sport, but it is all on you."

He regularly stays after practice, refining his wrestling techniques. Even with just the one year of experience the ambitious wrestler is relishing the idea of becoming one of the leaders on the team next year.

Klose believes his program could only improve if everyone on the team had his attitude."Dave's just a young guy in Grade 11. He's just a horse. He keeps working and working and he loves the sport. If we can provide something for those types of people then great," Klose said.

Another first-year wrestler, 14-year-old Max Ambridge, started wrestling this year after older siblings Amelia and Alex, both former Red Hawks wrestlers, applied some pressure. Amelia earned a spot at OFSSA last year.

The best thing about wrestling thus far has been the friendliness of the competitors, Ambridge says.

"They're all very nice," he said, adding that he thought they were going to be "these punks who thought they were all tough."

Though short on words the young man is big on the mat, racking up 17 wins (17-1) through four tournaments. His competition will only get more difficult as he begins wrestling in open fields where he may encounter wrestlers in the senior grades.

Grade 11 student Korey Hissa, 16, is only one of two returning female wrestlers; the other is Melanie Howitt. Hissa hasn't competed in any school sports since elementary school and has found wrestling to be as welcoming to women as it is to males. It is challenging to both sexes despite her intitial belief that it was a male-dominated sport.

"It's an equal sport. There's no borderline. It's for men and women," she said.

Her one regret is that she wishes Fockler and Klose started the program earlier. Her older sibling, Stacey McKinney, 29, encouraged Hissa to

See **Wrestling** *page 16*

Bruce Turner PHOTOGRAPHY

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Wrestling results only secondary to the enjoyment of the sport

from page 15

wrestle two years ago. McKinney knew of the coaches' character after she attended high school with both coaches.

The team has competed in four tournaments and each time it has been one of the largest teams represented, sometimes with more than 40 participants.

"It's great because you have so many people on the team to support you for your matches. They're there for help and support," Hissa said.

Head coaches Klose and Fockler started the program last year. They believe in their wrestlers. It's no surprise that their wrestlers believe in them and credit whatever successes they achieve to them.

"Mr. Klose and Mr. Fockler, for sure, are two of the best wrestling coaches you can get, around here anyway... Without them I wouldn't be very far," Balaski said.

Klose said he and Fockler both strive to keep things loose and relaxed at practices and at tournaments.

"We're just there to provide an opportunity and they take it which is great," Klose said.

They both emphasize personal goals rather than focusing on specific competition placings.

"We always like to see a wrestler do their best and be happy with their performance. That's one of the advantages of teaching an individual sport – you can have a wrestler lose a match and do their best and feel good about it," Klose said.

He adds the differences between personal success depends on the individual.

"It's a great group. It's a pretty special group that comes out. They accept the sport and go with it and work hard. The results seem to come on their own," Klose said.

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Wilberforce opens doors to Christmas past

The year 2003 was the best of times and worst of times locally and globally

community news

wilberforce

Hilda Clark

448-2018

The doors of the historic Essonville Church opened once again for the annual Christmas Carol Service on Sunday evening, December 21, 2003.

For a brief time people felt steeped in the near past and the long ago. The church carefully and lovingly restored and preserved was the physical setting with participants making links with its creation and its role in the community.

The music, the carols and the stories read, about the love brought to earth that first Christmas over two thousand years ago touched the hearts and minds of those assembled.

This service brings together people from throughout the community and beyond.

Appreciation goes to all who give this fine evening of worship to us each year.

Among those we thank are Paul Way, Rick Vaughan, Cheryl Riley, Elsie Lewis, Leslie Finlay, Joan Noble, Elois Somerville, Ken Noble, Ken Jones, Robert McCrae, Jennifer Galea, Caroline Dahlke, Alana Coty and Andrea and Shannon Way, Dale McCrae and Edgar Thatcher.

Your organizing, your singing, your organ, saxophone and guitar music, your stories and bell ringing make it a very special part of Christmas 2003.

As was said by famous English writer, Charles Dickens in A Tale of Two Cities, about a much earlier time, the year 2003 was "the best of times and the worst of times" both worldwide, in Canada and locally. From Queen's Jubilee Medal excitement to the illnesses and sad deaths of friends and family, 2003 certainly had its "bests" and "worsts".

May the New Year 2004 be a good year for all, especially those who scan this weekly column.

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Christmas finds family

Phrona Sisson dinner honours season

community news

west guilford

Eleanor Cooper

754-2388

Christmas embraces more than the blessed day itself. In Guilford, as in many other communities, it involves family dinners, evenings with special friends, and those wonderful unexpected visits which are so welcome.

On Dec. 20th all of Mrs. Phrona Sisson's family except Barry and Sharon gathered at the Centre for dinner. This meant Russell, Darrol, Delores, Elois, Sharon, and Zelda and most of their spouses. The 40 present enjoyed each family's favourite dish in a pot luck meal, and the games, gifts and Santa around the tree was a happy time for all.

The children at Maple Lake United Church performed a progam of carols around a manger scene along with the service of lessons and carols arranged by the Rev. Max Ward.

Valerie Davis is superintendent of the Sunday School there. Santa Claus presented himself at the party afterwards in the basement of the church to the delight of all concerned.

We had get-together here on Dec. 17th of a few of the ladies who used to attend St. Andrew's and enjoy some visiting with one another.

Paul and Margo Sisson hosted a Christmas dinner for their brothers and sisters, and all but Juanita of Alberta now, were able to attend, which meant 43 in all – Nadene and Jeff Campbell, Brian and Susan Sisson, Angela Bilodeau, Jennifer Wilson, Christopher and Karen, Lornelle and Tim Casey, and Steve and Alayne Sisson and of course their families.

The blessings of the season to all readers of this column.

New Years Eve snacks easy as 1-2-3

cooking with

franka andriano

franka

We spend so much time thinking of what to do for Christmas that we forget about New Years Eve or day. Here are some fun and easy snacks to make for that gang who's over or just watching football, or hockey.

Hummus

2 (15oz) cans of chick peas
two tablespoon tahini
two large cloves garlic, slices
one half cup lemon juice

Drain beans, reserving one garter cup liquid. Place beans, tahini, garlic and one-quarter salt in food processor bowl or blender container. Add reserved liquid and lemon juice; process or blend until smooth, adding al little water, if necessary, to make of dipping smoothness.

Serve with vegetable dipper or assorted crackers and chips.

Makes 3 cups

Mini Pizzas with Caramelized Onion & Chevre

2 tbsp butter
2 Vidalia onions, thinly sliced
3 tbsp Balsamic Vinegar
3 tbsp brown sugar or maple syrup
1 pig 4oz goat cherve cheese
1 pkg puff pastry, thawed but cold
Preheat oven to 425*

In saucepan, melt butter over medium heat; cook onions for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally or until softened. Stir in sugar or maple syrup and balsamic vinegar.

Season with salt & pepper.

Cook for 25 minutes, stirring occasionally or until onions are tender and golden brown.

Roll out pastry; into rectangle or square: Cut our small rounds, the size of a mini pizza and prick the pastry with a fork. Scatter caramelized onions on rounds, and top with a crumble each with chevre cheese.

Place on baking sheet, preferably covered with parchment paper.

Bake directly on centre oven rack for 10-15 min. until puffed and golden, and cheese is melted.

Makes 12-15.

Fun to customize your own pizzas.

Caramel Corn

10 cups popped popcorn (about 1/2 cup unpopped popcorn)
1 cup dry roasted peanuts
1 cup packed brown sugar
3/4 cup butter
1/4 light corn syrup
1/4 teaspoon baking soda

Combine popcorn and peanuts in a large roasting pan: keep warn in a 300° oven while preparing syrup. Combine brown sugar, butter corn syrup and one-quarter salt in a heavy saucepan.

Bring to boiling over medium heat, stirring almost constantly.

Citrus-Cumin Dip

1/2 cup sour cream
2 tbsp orange juice
1 tbsp lemon or limejuice
1/2 tsp ground cumin
1/4 tsp salt
2 tbsp snipped chives

In a small bowl. Stir sour cream with orange and lemon juices. Sprinkle with cumin and salt. Stir in chives. Taste. Add more salt, if needed.

If making ahead add chives just before serving.

Cover and refrigerate up to 2 days.

Good with vegetables.

From Chatelaine December 2003

Happy New Year and remember drink and drive responsibly!

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BMO Bank of Montreal would like to thank all our clients and friends for their support with our Thanksgiving Food Bank Drive. The response was so overwhelming in Ontario that it did take longer for the funds to be returned from our Fountain of Hope. Your support raised over $4,900.00 in funds for our local 4Cs. What a wonderful Christmas gift.

Thank you again!
All the best to you and yours this holiday season.

The staff at
BMO Bank of Montreal

Danielle's
HAIR SALON
&
OUT OF THE BLUES DAY SPA
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

A sincere congratulations to the new owner - Brenda Coty.
A special thank you to Brenda, Sue Roberts and Susan Grimes for your gracious and unselfish help above and beyond the call of duty this past year.
We wish all of you every success - you certainly deserve it.

And of course, thank you to all our wonderful customers, for your loyal support over the years. "Customers" is not the right word here because you always felt more like friends and family. We'll miss you terribly, but we'll be in touch. And of course, we hope to see you when we are back in for our own visits, as 'customers.'
Best wishes to you all,
Rusty, Nic & Ashlie

PARKSIDE COIN LAUNDRY

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Congratulations to the new owners!
Malcolm Morris and Giovanna Pagliuca

A heartfelt thank you to all our supportive customers over the years. We'll miss you, and best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Sincerely,
Rusty, Nic and Ashlie

Notices Notices Notices

Notices Notices

MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART et al

NOTICE

All dogs are required by law to be tagged. The fee for each licence / tag is $10.00.

2004 dog licences and tags are now available at the Municipal Offices, Maple Ave., Haliburton

Further take notice that charges may be laid at any time for any dog not licensed and tagged, according to law.

Charges may also be laid if a dog is found running at large, whether tagged or not. Every person guilty of an offence shall be liable upon conviction to a fine not exceeding $500.00 for each offence.

Gary Heads, Municipal Law Enforcement Officer

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LOWEST OR ANY TENDER NOT NECESSARILY ACCEPTED.
Tenders to be opened at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 9, 2004.

Notices Notices

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NOTICE OF COUNCIL MEETING TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION TO PURCHASE ROAD ALLOWANCE MUNICIPALITY OF DYSART ET AL

DATE: January 12th, 2004
TIME: any person who wishes to address Council should contact the Planning Department for a delegation time.
LOCATION: Council Chambers, Municipal Office, Haliburton, Ontario.

APPLICATIONS:
The Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al has by resolution declared the following parcels of land to be surplus. These parcels of land are parts of original road allowances, allowances for road or shoreline road allowances, located in the Municipality of Dysart et al, in the County of Haliburton.

1. Applicant: Niziol
   Location:
   - Kennisis Lake
   - Shoreline Road Allowance
   - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 6, Concession 2 Township of Havelock.
   - Defined as Parts 1 and 2 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.

2. Applicant: John Richard Dill Trust
   Location:
   - Kennisis Lake
   - Shoreline Road Allowance
   - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lots 6 and 7, Concession 13 Township of Guilford
   - Defined as Parts 1, 2 and 3 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.

3. Applicants: Kortekaas
   Location:
   - Haliburton Lake
   - Shoreline Road Allowance/Allowance for Road
   - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 15, Concession 7; and
   - Part of the Allowance for Road, Registered Plan 362, Township of Harburn
   - Defined as Parts 4, 5 and 6 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Paul Wilson Surveying Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.

4. Applicants: Allan
   Location:
   - Kawagama Lake
   - Shoreline Road Allowance/Original Road Allowance
   - Part of the Shoreline Road Allowance In Front of Lot 4, Concession 13; and
   - Part of the Original Road Allowance Between Concessions 12 and 13, Township of Havelock
   - Defined as Part 1 on Plan 19R-5712 and Part 1 on a preliminary plan of survey, prepared by Coote, Hiley, Jemmett Ltd., being available for review in the Planning Department.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al proposes to consider and if deemed appropriate enact at its meeting as noted above, a by-law to close, stop-up and convey the portions of road allowance described above.

BEFORE PASSING the said by-law, the Council of the Corporation of the United Townships of Dysart et al shall at its meeting to be held as noted above, hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his land will be affected by the said by-law.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION is available for review from the Planning Department at the Municipal Office during regular offices hours (9:00 am. to 5:00 pm. Monday to Friday).

DATED at the Township of Dysart, this 16th day of December, 2003.

Patricia E. Martin
M.C.I.P., R.P.P.
Township Planner

Merry Christmas from Kenyan Bushland

JANET DONNER

Special to the Echo

The Canadian World Youth group enjoyed their stay in the Highlands. The group seen here during the summer in Haliburton.

I hope you are all enjoying what I imagine to be a magical snowy, winter wonderland in the Haliburton Highlands. Here, the weather is very pleasant; I have yet to break out into a sweat (both due to lack of exercise and climate), but the rains have stopped and the skies are clear and sunny. Ahhhh... it's December 22nd, how did that happen?

I'm listening to Bing Crosby sing Christmas tunes on the Kenyan national radio station and it seems so out of place. We've been in Kenya for two weeks now and the experience has definitely been different than I had anticipated.

As you know, we are living in north-central Kenya in the Il Ngwesi Group Ranch, which spans over about 17,000 acres. The wildlife here is everything you could possibly dream of: elephants, giraffes, zebras, baboons, lions, gazelles, hyenas, monkeys. The list definitely goes on.

I walk along the path and see baboons feeding in the grass with their children perched on their backs, giraffes grazing on the acacia trees, zebras munching alongside cattle, lions sunning themselves on the side of the road (okay, so I wasn't walking along the path for that one!). It's like our own private two month safari! [Co-leader] Elias and I live in a different conservation area that is privately owned by a former European. The security is high; we are surrounded by electric fences to help keep the animals in, and have to pass through numerous checkpoints to enter in or out of this place. If it weren't for the wildlife, I might think I was in a prison.

The Canada World Youth participants are spread across the Maasai land, which has proven to be very problematic. We have no means of reliable or affordable transportation. The roads are very rough here, some of the roughest I have ever been on. You need a four wheel drive vehicle to get anywhere, and they are almost useless in the rains – then you need a plane. We've been charged through the roof to rent vehicles ($150 US/day, and that's if you can find one available since it's the height of tourist season), and they are hard to come by even when we are desperate.

This means that it's an unsafe scenerio because we have no sure way to get participants out if we need to, let alone visit them for general purposes or get the group all together. Il Ngwesi was supposed to have done this beforehand, but it didn't get done. It seems as though the wrong people were given the responsibility.

However, there are some absolute superstar community members who are also hosts, and they are helping us to find a solution to the challenges. We are trying to look at other possibilities to have everyone live in one general area where we can walk to see all of them.

Eight of the participants live up in a place called Nadungoro Forest (where both Kuntai and Daniel are from - their families are hosts!). It's a beautiful place; a huge plateau for grazing cattle with families living around the edges, hills all around and a dense forest on one side. The participants who are there love it, so we hope to get everyone up there, including ourselves. At the moment, Elias and I live up to three hours away from participants!

Our means of communication is usually by radio call with the security officers. It's quite comical at times; I have been tracked down at all corners of the area to be told there is someone that needs to speak to me. Then, a participant or security guard gets on and complains of some ailment and everyone over a 200 km radius knows about it instantly. It's definitely not private to say the least.

The other day, blond Andrea had an issue that she needed to talk to me about but was uncomfortable about talking about it over the radio. I told her just to speak in French, so then she began to speak, and she thought that if she just spoke softly, no one would hear. Ofcourse, it just meant that everyone turned their radios up!

The participants are living and working with various Maasai families. The community members have been wonderful to the participants, and for the most part everyone is doing pretty well. Agness has malaria, and Canadian Daniel has an eye infection, but that's all to be expected. The main staples of food are milk (the consistency of cottage cheese), cow's or goat's blood, and meat. For the most part, everyone has been enthusiastically sampling raw kidneys, blood and smoked milk, and they are adapting really well.

The participants have been so fortunate to attend quite a few initiation ceremonies for both males and females. In fact, we were able to be there when Daniel's little brother was initiated. When a boy turns 15 he is initiated into manhood and becomes a warrior through circumcision, where the whole community watches, then there is a lot of dancing, singing, eating meat and drinking local brew. The girls are also circumcised, but there isn't quite as much fanfare for them.

I don't think I will be having much of a celebration here for Christmas, maybe play a game of pool with the radio guys. However, tomorrow we are getting the group together (it will only take four hours to get them all in one place!). We are buying a goat and we will slaughter it, cook it up with some ugali, throw in some fruit and call it a Christmas dinner!

I hope this finds everyone well, happy and surrounded by loved ones for whatever your celebrations may be. We are definitely thinking of everyone there in Haliburton and sending peaceful and festive greetings to you all!

Warm hugs,
Janet

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Ruth Has Made Her Final Sale!

As I head into retirement, I want to say thank you to the many wonderful people I have had the privilege to work with, and to work for.

It is now time to take a new path on my journey, where I can enjoy time with my dear family, and the many friends that I have had the opportunity to make.

Happy New Year to all!

Ruth Mitchell

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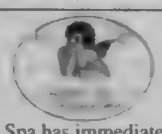

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1999 TOYOTA TERCEL
4 Dr., 5 Spd, PS, PB, Air
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2 Door, Blue, 4 cyl., Auto
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4 Door, 6 Cyl., Air, Power Windows
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Auto, air, 4 cyl., 4 door
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CA

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CA

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CA

270 HEALTH &FITNESS

STEP IT FITNESS – Aerobics Classes. Noon Classes: 12:10 - 12:50. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday. Cardio strength, cardio flexibility. **Evening Classes: 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday.** cardio strength, cardio flexibility. **Pilates:** 12 week Session. **Starting January 5th, 2004.** Call Jane for information 457–1052, Ext. 205. Space Limited, Register early.

CA

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270 HEALTH &FITNESS

YOGA/RELAXATION
West Guilford Community Centre
Wed., Jan. 7th
7:00 p.m.
and
Club 35, Hwy. 35, Halls Lake
Mon., Jan. 12th
1:00 p.m.
Both locations 10 week courses.
For info and registration
Call Pat at 489–4279.

280 MOVING & STORAGE

INDOOR STORAGE – Vehicles, household, etc. Large or small spaces available, gated security property, accessible 7 days/week. Call 286–3030.

CA

290 COMING EVENTS

PHYSICAL JOURNEYS FITNESS
• Register Now!! •
Limited Registration
WINTER PROGRAMS
January 5th - March 30th.
Muscle Plus • Light Activity Fitness • Fit 4 • Camp New S.A.Y. Stretch and Yoga
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Lori Kah 457–3224

CA

Haliburton
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WED DEC 31
WED JAN 7
SEE YOU ON WED JAN 14
HAVE A HAPPY HOLIDAY & THE BEST IN THE NEW YEAR
The Bingo Committee

RETIRED TEACHERS OF ONTARIO
Haliburton Unit
are having their annual
Chickadee Luncheon
at the Old Country House, Haliburton
Monday, January 12
at 12:00 p.m.
A flat rate will be charged.
Reservations Required.
Call
Louise Cooper at 754–9129
or John Stouffer at 457–1933
no later than
Wednesday, January 7

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8TH
Come out to the
1st Winter Hike of the Season
and celebrate the opening of the new resort area snowshoe trail!
Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Delta Pinestone Resort –
snowshoes rentals available.
For more details on this and other scheduled winter hikes, contact the Trails & Tours Network at (705) 489–4049 or
info@trailsandtours.on.ca

CA

WILBERFORCE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
General Annual Meeting
Monday, January 5, 2004
Pot luck dinner - **6:00 p.m.**
Meeting - **7:30 p.m.**
Tory Hill Community Centre.
All are Welcome.

CA

ECHO 457-1037

300 ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEST GUILFORD RECREATION CENTRE
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Bingo every Mon. 7:15 p.m.
Euchre every Tues. 7:00 p.m.
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CA

370 BIRTHDAYS

SURPRISE
70TH BIRTHDAY
Open House
for
ELAINE LESLIE
Saturday, Jan. 3, 2004
2 to 4 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion
Haliburton, Ontario
Everyone Welcome.

400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
In the Estate of **WILLIAM BASIL BONNER**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of William Basil Bonner, late of the Township of Anson, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 28th day of September, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.
DATED at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Administrator for the Estate of William Basil Bonner.

CA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
In the Estate of **THOMAS HENRY JONES**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Thomas Henry Jones, late of the Township of Minden, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 23rd day of October, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.
DATED at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executrix for the Estate of Thomas Henry Jones.

CA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS
In the Estate of **JANET MOWBRAY LEVITT**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Janet Mowbray Levitt, late of the Township of Lutterworth, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 18th day of August, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.
DATED at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executors for the Estate of Janet Mowbray Levitt.

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PERSONALS

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Are drugs and alcohol affecting your life? Information about treatment services is available. Call the DRUG AND ALCOHOL TREATMENT INFORMATION LINE (DART) toll-free, 1-800-565-8603. www.dart.on.ca

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400 NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **GWENDOLINE FLORENCE MUNSON**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Gwendoline Florence Munson, late of the Township of Anson, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 6th day of August, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.

DATED at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executors for the Estate of Gwendoline Florence Munson.

CA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **JOHN EDWARD SCOTT**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of John Edward Scott, late of the Township of Lutterworth, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 2nd day of June, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.

DATED at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Administratrix for the Estate of John Edward Scott.

CA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of **IRIS (SANDY) RUTH WHITE**, deceased; All persons having claims against the Estate of Iris (Sandy) Ruth White, late of the Township of Minden, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 28th day of June, 2003, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of January, 2004, after which date the assets will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice.

DATED at Minden, Ontario this 11th day of December, 2003 by DONALD J. FINN, Barrister and Solicitor, P.O. Box 158, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0, solicitor for the Executors for the Estate of Iris (Sandy) Ruth White.

CA

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE CECIL BRENTON THEODORE WINTER

All creditors and others having claims against the Estate of CECIL BRENTON THEODORE WINTER, late, of the Township of Dysart, in the County of Haliburton, who died on or about the 2nd day of December, 2003, are required to file the particulars of such claim with the undersigned solicitor for the said Estate on or before the 6th day of January, 2004.

AND TAKE NOTICE that after the last date named, the assets of the said Estate will be distributed amongst the persons entitled hereto by the Estate Trustee of the Estate, having regard only to the claims of which the solicitor below shall have notice.

DATED at Haliburton, Ontario this 8th day of December, 2003. RAYMOND G. SELBIE, Barrister, Solicitor, Notary Public, P.O. Box 186, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0.

CA

440 THANK YOU

The family of GLEN MacDUFF would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for all their support and kindness during the time of bereavement. And a special thanks to Bob and Haliburton Community Funeral Home for all their understanding and kindness.

450 IN MEMORIAM

ILES, EDWARD (TED) – In loving memory of a wonderful husband, father, father-in-law and Papa who passed away January 5, 2002.
No farewell was spoken
No time to say goodbye
You were gone before we knew it
And will always wonder why.
Our hearts still aches with sadness
And secret tears still fall.
What it means to lose you
No one will ever know.
Sadly missed and always love you, **your wife Dorothy and Sheila, Leslie, Bob and Corey.**

460 OBITUARIES

AT REST
BOB AND GAYLE McCONNELL

On Christmas Eve, at 2 p.m., Bob and Gayle McConnell were taken from us suddenly in a fatal car accident. Bob 72, and Gayle 66 leave behind a loving son Robert McConnell with spouse Cathy and daughter Kimberly Blair and her husband Fred Blair, mother Violet McConnell, sister Helen (McConnell) and husband Tony Watkin, brother Guard and wife Jean Campbell and many extended family and good friends. Bob was a devoted husband and father, and was a brother of the Masonic Lodge and noble of the Rameses Shrine. Gayle was a devoted wife and caring mother, and was a member of the Eastern Star and the Rebekah's. She was also an active member of the Women's Health Care Auxiliary in Minden. Both Bob and Gayle were dedicated to their community and passionate about everything they did. They were active members of the Minden Curling Club, Royal Canadian Legion Branch #636 Minden, and the Tai Chi Society of Canada. Both will be sadly missed by all who knew them Many heartfelt thanks for all your thoughts, support and prayers. May God walk with them now and forever. Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Main St. P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 (1–888–588–5777) on Sunday, January 4, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., and on Monday, January 5, 2004 from 11:00 a.m. until the time of the Memorial Service in the chapel at 1:00 p.m. Memorial Donations to the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Masonic Service at the Funeral Home on Sunday, January 4, 2004 at 2:30 p.m. followed by the Legion Service at 3:00 p.m.

CA

RAFFERTY, JUDY (SPROULE) – Suddenly at Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay on Friday, December 26, 2003. Judy Rafferty was in her 49th year. She was the beloved mother of Chyvonne Rafferty of Fenelon Falls. Loving daughter of Barbara Sproule of Fenelon Falls and predeceased by her father Vernon Sproule. Dear sister of David and his wife Carol Sproule of Richmond. Dear aunt of Sarah and Trudy and great aunt to Luke. The family of Judy Rafferty will receive friends at the Jardine Funeral Home "Illman-Platten Chapel" 8 Princes' St. West, Fenelon Falls on Saturday January 3 from 12 p.m. until time of her Celebration of Life at 1 p.m. Memorial donations to the Women's Resources or the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. On line condolences can be made at www.jardinefuneralhomes.com

CA

460 OBITUARIES

ROBERTS, MERVYN MORRIS – Passed away peacefully at the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital, Bracebridge, Ontario, December 20, 2003, in his 73rd year. Born in Haliburton, where he returned to visit often with family and friends. He enjoyed his hobbies of model trains, playing euchre and bridge, fishing, and touring the Highlands and Muskoka's on his motorcycle. He will be fondly remembered by his brothers, Wayne and Clyde and many nieces and nephews. A memorial will be held at a later date. "Remember him as a great friend."

STEGENGA, BEN – At Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay on Saturday, December 27, 2003. Ben Stegenga was the beloved husband of Jenny Stegenga of Fenelon Falls. Dear father of John and his wife Kari of Bobcaygeon, Harry and his wife Jennifer of Orillia, Joanne of Fenelon Falls and Tricia of Marmora. Remembered by his mother Marjie Stegenga and his one brother and four sisters and predeceased by Jantje, Peter, Kevin and Grace. Survived by many nieces and nephews and great nieces and great nephews. The family of Mr. Stegenga received friends at the Jardine Funeral Homes, "Illman-Platten Chapel" 8 Princes' St. West Fenelon Falls on Monday 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Funeral service from Christian Reformed Church, Angeline St. North, Lindsay on Tuesday, December 30 at 11 a.m. Interment at Fenelon Falls Cemetery. Memorial donations to World Vision or Heritage Christian School would be appreciated by the family. On line condolences can be made at:
www.jardinefuneralhomes.com

CA

WINN, WILFRED CHARLES "CHUCK" – Passed away at the age of 83 on Saturday morning, December 26, 2003 at the SRH Laurentian Site. Beloved husband of Anne (Mousseau) Winn of Sudbury, loving father of Tracy Ellen Winn of Sudbury. Cherished son of Isaac and Mary Ellen (Donnelly) Winn predeceased. Dear brother of Lafette, Franklin, William (wife Edna), John, Albert, Isabelle, Cecilia (husband Hugh), Mildred (husband Wallace) and Helen (husband George) all predeceased. Dear uncle of many nieces and nephews. Sadly missed by Marian and Bill Halcomb of Michigan; Valerie and Russell Campbell of Florida. Resting at the Jackson & Barnard Funeral Home, 233 Larch St. Sudbury. Funeral Service in the R. J. Barnard Chapel, Tuesday, December 30, 2003 at 11:30 a.m. Interment in the Civic Cemetery, Sudbury. A memorial service will be held at 7 p.m. Monday under the auspices of the Nickel Lodge #427 AF & HM; A memorial service will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday under the auspices of the Royal Canadian Legion Br. #76, Sudbury. Donations to the Mended Hearts; the Northern Cancer Research Fund or the Canadian Diabetes would be appreciated. Friends called 2-5; 7-9 p.m., Monday and after 10 a.m. Tuesday.

KIM DRUMHELLER

(Resident of Haliburton,Ontario)

At Haliburton Hospital on Sunday evening, December 28, 2003 in her 48th year. Beloved wife of Rick Ruttig. Cherished mother of Raven at home. Predeceased by her parents Peter & Maria Drumheller and her brother Leslie. Friends may call at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705)457-9209 on Friday afternoon, January 2, 2004 from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral Service in the Chapel on Saturday morning, January 3, 2004 at 11 o'clock. Cremation. As expressions of sympathy donations to the The Canadian Paraplegic Association of Ontario 520 Sutherland Drive Toronto, Ontario M4G 3V9 would be appreciated by the family.

community calendar

What's happening in the Highlands

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CURRENT EVENTS

• **Now until May 31/04: Adult Badminton**: Mondays, 7:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m., Archie Stouffer Elementary School, Minden – September 15 to May 31/04. Join us for fun, fellowship and fitness. For more information phone Lois, 286-1765.

• **Dec. 24 to Jan. 5/04: Alzheimer Society Support Groups Haliburton.** Alzheimer Office in Haliburton. Office will be closed from Dec. 24th at noon until January 5th, 2004. For info. please contact Janet Bottum, Support Services Coordinator, at the Alzheimer Society Office in Haliburton 457-8335.

• **Dec. 31: Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 129, Haliburton** wishes everyone a very merry, safe, healthy holiday season and invites you to join them in ringing in the year 2004. The fantastic band, "Forgotten Memories" will be played and there will be lots of prizes and a hot and cold buffet. Please don't drink and drive, there are special prices for transportation with Hyland Cabs.

• **Jan. 4: (Epiphany)** Joint Service at 11 a.m. at the Minden United Church.

• **Jan. 6: The Haliburton Highlands Handweavers and Spinners** invite you to their monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month. OHS Spinning Presentation - Spin, Weave, Dye, Knit, Design. Color and 1:30 p.m. on January 13/04 at the Haliburton Museum.

• **Jan. 7: Please join Home Support for Wheels to Meals** at Kei's Restaurant in Haliburton on Wednesday, January 7th. Lunch begins at 12 noon. Please call Stella McLean to make your reservations, 457-2982.

• **Jan. 8: Please join Home Support for Wheels to Meals** at Elephant Lake Lodge in Harcourt. Lunch begins at 1 p.m. on Friday, January 8th. Please call Ida to make your reservations, 457-2941.

• **Jan. 8: Haliburton Highlands Field Naturalists** monthly meeting will present local naturalist Jim Thompson who will talk and show slides on wild flowers of Haliburton County and Surrounding areas. Jan. 8, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. in the Haliburton Museum. Refreshments available and all are welcome. Further info. 457-2487.

• **Jan. 15: General meeting of the Minden H.H.H.S. Auxiliary** at Hyland Crest, Jan. 15 at 1:00 p.m. Dwight Thomas will talk about the Paramedic Service. Question and Answer period will follow. Everybody welcome.

ONGOING EVENTS:

• Every Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. learn to line dance at the West Guilford Community Centre. Call Marta at 754-1168 for more details.

• Anyone interested in or affiliated with mental health services are invited to join the Advisory Committee to Mental Health in Haliburton County. Send a letter of interest to: HHMHSAC, Nominating Committee, Box 539, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0 or call 286-4575.

• Highlands Parent Child Mother Goose Program – For parents and children, (birth to 2-1/2 years) learning rhymes, songs, and stories together. Wednesday Mornings January 7 to March 10, 2004, 10:0 - 11:00 a.m. Cardiff Elementary School. For more info and to register please call: Family Services: 457-5345; Ontario Early Years Centre: 457-2989 (formerly CHACE). Free!! Childcare for older siblings may be available on request.

• Climax Climbing Club meets every Tuesday evening at Medeba Adventure Centre in West Guilford, Drop-in, indoor rock climbing from 6:30 - 8 p.m. for children 13 and under to climb with a parent or guardian and from 6:30 - 9:30 for teens and adults (parental permission required for children under 18 years). Beginners welcome - all equipment supplied. For more info. contact Greg and Sue at Family Services of Haliburton County, 457-5345.

• Adult Women's Basketball league plays every Monday night from 7:30 - 8:30 in the high school gym. New players are welcome. Cost $3./night.

Events listings are provided **FREE** for non-profit groups on a space-available basis. While we endeavour to accommodate requests for publication, we cannot guarantee that all requests for listings will appear. Requests should be faxed to The Echo at 457-3275, emailed to editorial@haliburtonecho.on.ca., or brought in to the office. **Please submit events by the Thursday prior to the requested publication date.**

NOTE: This calendar is not a comprehensive listing of all events taking place in the area. Please check the classified pages, display advertising and articles appearing elsewhere in the Echo for more information on events in the Highlands.

The Party's Over

Agents: Tracy Ackerblade, Troy Austen, Rosalind Bagg, Ken Barry, Linda Baumgartner, Linda Beachli, Peter Brady, Geoff Bunn, Fred Chapple, Vince Duchene, Lenor Fulton, Norm Harrison, Bill Kulas, Cathy Lancia, Rick Lowes, Miranda Newman, Marcia Prenger, Andy Pristol, Tom & Gail Tempest, Ted Vasey, Melanie Vigrass. Missing Agents: Julie Gray, Erwin Roithmeier
Support Staff: Tammy Thompson, Brenda McKinlay, Paul Johnson, Karen Nimigon, Diane Dennie, Sue Marshall, Daniel Scott

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We are already reserving listings for the spring Cottage Life Show

"Based in whole or in part on information supplied by the Muskoka Haliburton Association of REALTORS for the period January 2002 through December 2002."

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THE HALIBURTON COUNTY HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION

Celebrating 10 Years!

Have a safe and happy holiday season!
All the best from everyone at the
Haliburton County Home Builders Association

New Board member for the Canadian Home Builders

Aggie Tose of Haliburton

Haliburton County Home Builders Association has seat on the board of the Canadian Home Builders. When you belong to the Home Builders Association you belong on three levels, National, Provincial and local. Our Executive Officer, Aggie Tose was recently elected Chair of the Executive Officers Advisory Committee. She will serve a one year term as Chair of this committee. Aggie has be the local Executive Officer since 1994. An Executive Officer is generally responsible for the overall administration of the Association. An Executive Officer provides continuity to an association.

Students pitch in to help Home Builders' Christmas Toy and Food Drive

Students at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton took part in the annual effort to help less fortunate people in the community. Home Builders director Aggie Tose, right, accepts the donated items from student representatives Chris O'Mara, left, and Erin Nicholson

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When it's time to hire a contractor, follow these important steps

Step One

Know who you're dealing with

Good contractors have satisfied customers. Ask contractors to provide customer references for projects similar to yours. Then take the time to call these homeowners and ask if the work was done properly, on time , and on budget. Find out if any follow-up work was needed and if this was done satisfactorily. Also ask if they would hire the contractor again.

If a contractor is unwilling to provide references, don't hire them.

Step Two

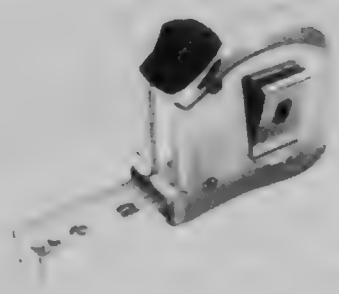
Make sure you're protected from risks

When a contractor works on your home, you need to be protected from a number of risks. These risks exist whether you are hiring someone for a simple home repair, a large renovation project, the construction of a new home or cottage, or to work on a rental property you own.

Here are some things you should know:

• A contractor's business liability insurance can protect you if your home is damaged through your contractor's fault, or if the contractor causes damage or injury to third parties, like your neighbours.

• Most contractors are required by law to have Workers' Compensation coverage. If



you hire a contractor who does not have this coverage, you face an increased risk of claims or financial loss if a worker is injured on your project.

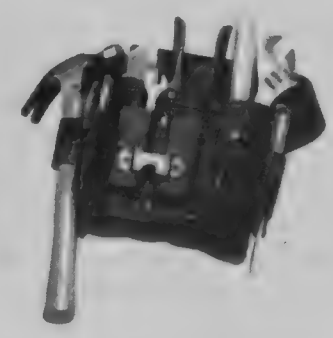
• A contractor's valid Business Number or GST/HST number tells you that they are registered with the Government of Canada.

• The lien regulations in your province specify how much money you must hold back from payments. This protects you if your contractor fails to pay supplies or subcontractors.

• A contractor's written warranty specifies what is covered and for how long. When you hire a contractor to build a new home on land that you own, insist on coverage under a new home warranty program in your province.

• Written receipts for all deposits and payments you make to a contractor provides proof that you have paid, It's also important that your project complies with local building codes. Any change to the structure of your home, even something very minor, requires a building permit.

See **A WRITTEN** *page 28*



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A written contract provides essential protection to you, and contractor

from page 27

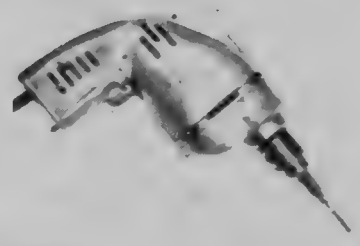
Homeowners are responsible for obtaining a building permit; however, your contractor can usually get the permit on your behalf.

Inform your home insurance company before any work begins. Some homeowner policies don't cover construction-related risks or theft of building materials from the work site. Call your home insurance representative to make sure that you have adequate coverage.

Step Three

Get it in Writing!

Having a written contract is essential. It helps protect you from the nightmare of lawsuits that can result from accidents, work-related injuries, or damages to third parties. Even for small projects, it's important to make sure you're protected. The size of the job does not limit the liability you face if an accident occurs. And accidents can happen even with the simplest



home repairs.

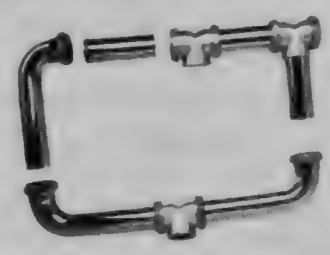
A written contract also helps protect you from many other potential problems. Without a contract, you could lose any deposit or advance payment given to the contractor, or find yourself charged far more than you expected. Also, there is little you can do about poor quality or incomplete work. And you have little assurance that you will get warranty coverage and after-sales service.

A contract doesn't have to be complicated. For simple home repairs, it could be only a page long. For bigger projects, you'll need more information such as drawings a specification list. Although the following list is not comprehensive, it provides examples of the information that should be in all contracts:

- The name, address and telephone number of the contractor
- A full description of the work and the material and products to be used
- When the work will start and be completed
- How much you will be charged for the work and when you will have to pay
- The amount of payment you will hold back as required by the lien legislation in your province
- The contractor's warranty detailing what is covered and for how long
- A certificate from an insurance company providing that the contractor caries business liability insurance
- A letter of clearance from your province's worker's compensation program confirming the contractor is registered
- The contractor's Business Number or GST/HST number and
- The contractor's business licence number (where required by the municipality)

Most often the contractor will draw up a contract for you to review. Don't sign it unless you are satisfied that it includes all the necessary information and accurately represents what you have agreed to.

Professional contractors always work with a proper, written contract. Their price includes protection you need in case something goes wrong or an accident occurs. This is a valuable part of the service you're paying for.



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6th Annual Charity Hockey Tournament

January 30 - Feb. 1, 2004

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Minimum donation at the door
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All gate donations will be donated to 4C's.

18 teams participating this year
1st game on Friday night at 6:00 p.m.
1st game on Saturday is at 10:00 a.m.

We are proud to announce the 6th Annual HCHBA hockey tournament

PLEASE NOTE:
1. There will be two divisions at the tournament. One restricted to members of Home Builders Association.
2. A charity game with participants from all Home Builder teams is being arranged for Saturday night. Details to follow as soon as they are available.

The tournament schedule is as follows:

DATE: January 30, 31 and Feb. 1, 2004

PLACE: Haliburton Hockey Arena, Haliburton,

FEE: $500. per team.

REFRESHMENTS: A licensed bar will be provided in the upstairs of the hockey arena.

PAYMENTS: Please send in advance your applications with cheques payable to:

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Home Builders A
(front) Andrew Sachs. (middle, l-r) Mike Hamilton, Ryan Anderson, Jarrett Rowden, Nick Kulas. (rear) Adam Henry, Steve St. Cyr, Ryan Kavanuagh, Justin Carter, Dave Clark, Ryan Stevens, Ryan Wood

A Open The Pump Shop
(front, l-r) Tony Scheffee, Glen Evans, Wade Woodward, Ron Yake. (rear) Dan Marsden, Mark Stamp, Jeff Stamp, Dave McKay, Rick Ruttig, Dean Chaulk. Absent Erin Nicholls.

A Finalists Solid Burtch
(front) Phil Neville, Scott Welch, Cam Neville, Vince Duchene. (rear) Lee Donaldson, Andrew Burtch, Norm Barry, Pat Casey, STeve Barker, Gary Burtch, Ted Vasey, Bary Boice, Kevin Hamilton, Brent Flood.

Local home builders will once again field strong teams (as they did last year, pictured) in the 6th annual charity challenge hockey tournament to benefit the 4Cs, on the last weekend in January.

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Keeping cold under wraps

When you're cold, blood vessels in your skin, arms, and legs constrict, decreasing the blood flow to your extremities. This helps your critical organs stay warm, but your extremities are at risk for frostbite.

Frostbite means that your flesh freezes. Blood vessels are damaged and the reduced blood flow can lead to gangrene. The first sign of frostbite is skin that looks waxy and feels numb. Once tissues become hard, it's a severe medical emergency.

Wind chill accelerates heat loss – sometimes to a dramatic extent. For example, when the air temperature is -30˚,

- with no wind, there is little danger of skin freezing
- with 16 km/h wind (a flag will be fully extended), your skin can freeze in about a minute
- with 32 km/h wind (capable of blowing snow), your skin can freeze in 30 seconds.

When your core temperature drops, you're at risk for hypothermia. Early signs of hypothermia are shivering, blue lips and fingers, and poor coordination. Soon your breathing and heart rate slow down, and you become disoriented and confused. Hypothermia requires medical help.

What you can do to prevent cold stress

- Wear several layers of clothing rather than one thick layer.
- Wear gloves if the temperature is below 16˚C for sedentary work, below 4˚C for light work, and below -7˚C for moderate work.
- Take warm, high-calorie drinks and food.
- If your clothing gets wet at 2˚C or less, change into dry clothes immediately to prevent hypothermia.
- If you feel hot, open your jacket but keep your hat and gloves on.
- Give workers warm-up and rest breaks in a heated shelter. (Ontario has no legislated exposure limits for work in the cold.)

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Rip's Decorating Services	286-2070
Scott Welch Windows & Doors	754-1918
Sid Stamp Fuels Ltd.	286-1088
The Pump Shop	457-2638
Tom Prentice & Son's Trucking	286-1428

Home Builder Office 457-2629
www.haliburtonhomebuilders.on.ca

FALL PROTECTION

Do you have your training?

As of June 12, 2002, construction employees must ensure that a worker, who may use a fall protection system, is adequately trained in its use and is given adequate oral and written instructions by a competent person

To assist employers to meet this new regulation ***The Haliburton County Home Builders' Association*** would like to offer a fall protection training course. It will take place on Monday, January 19, 2004 in Haliburton

PRE REGISTRATION will be necessary to properly organize the course location and a course conductor.

Please contact Aggie Tose at the Home Builder Office, 457-2629 or by fax at 457-3436.

FALL TRAINING 2004

Company name: _____
Address: _____
Phone Number: _____

Attending _____ **x $40.00 =** _____ **(HCHBA) member)**
GST 7% _____
Total _____

Attending _____ **x $55.00 =** _____ **(non member)**
GST 7% _____
Total _____ **GST #R136582889**

Payable to H.C.H.B.A. Box 299, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0

Haliburton County Home Builders' Community Programs

Christmas Toy & Food Drive
November 24 to December 12, 2003

4Cs Charity Hockey Tournament
January 30, 31 and February 1, 2004

High School Scholarship Fund
Winner, 2003. Jillian Brown & Nathan Bonham

High School Construction Class alliance

Donations to HHHSF

Partnership with Sir Sandford Fleming College
A few space still available for pre-apprenticeship course starting January 2004

Fall protection training
First Aid training
Propane and chansaw course
Septic Installation training
Building Code Part 9 seminar